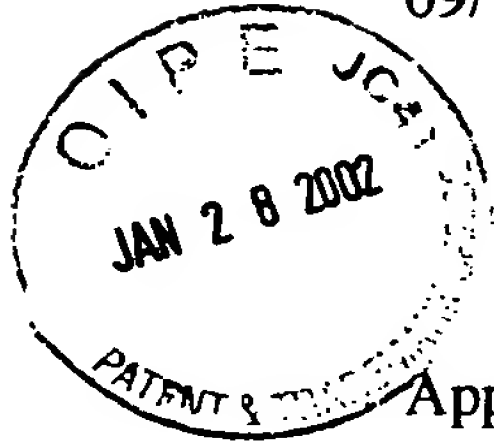


3731

09/734,787



END-712

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

FEB - 5 2002

TO 3700 MAIL ROOM

Art Unit: 3731

*Handwritten signature and date 2-14-02*

Applicants: Mark Ritchart et. al.

Serial No.: 09/734,787

Filed : December 12, 2000

Examiner: M. Hindenberg

For : Method and Apparatus for Automated Biopsy and Collection of Soft Tissue

Hon. Assistant Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the  
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed  
to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

January 7, 2002

(Date of Deposit)

Patricia A. Jara

Name of person signing the Certificate

*Handwritten signature of Patricia A. Jara*

(Signature)

January 7, 2002

(Date of Signature)

**AMENDMENT**

**COPY OF PAPERS  
ORIGINALLY FILED**

*2/13/02 u/s*

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated October 16, 2001, please consider the following  
amendments and/or Remarks.

Please amend the Application as set forth below and consider the following remarks.